श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : मैंने मथुरा की बात कही । वहां क्या यह सिस्टम है ? क्या आप रिबेट देंगे ? मैं तो अपने पार्लियामेंट के मैंबर के टेलीफोन की बात कर रहा हूं, किसी और आदमी की बात नहीं बता रहा हूं । रिबेट आप क्या देंगे ? रिबेट का फार्म क्या होगा ?

श्री राजेश पायलट : : सभापति जी, हमने जो यह प्रणाली बनाई है, यह सारे देश के लिए बनाई है और हम इसको क्रियान्वित करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं । अब जो सवाल इन्होंने उठाया है कि पिछली सरकार में कुछ घोषणाएं हुई थीं, वह तो इनकी सरकार थी । पता नहीं क्या घोषणाएं हुई थीं और क्या लागू हुई ।

श्री सभापति : वह सबको मालूम है । उस झगड़े में मत पड़ो ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : मेरे प्रश्न का दूसरा हिस्सा यह था कि जहां एस. टी. डी. है वहां फैक्स लगाया जा सकता है या नहीं ?

श्री राजेश पायलट : : इनका दूसरा सवाल यह है कि जहां एस.टी.डी. है वहां फैक्स भी आप दे दें तो लोगों को मदद मिलेगी । इस पर हमने विचार किया है । जहां-जहां हम दे पाएंगे, जहां-जहां बॉयेबल होगा वहां हम देने की कोशिश करेंगे लेकिन अगर हम मथुरा में दे दें और कोई यूज करने वाला न हो तो जो हम इन्वैस्टमेंट उस पर करेंगे, उसका कोई फायदा नहीं होगा । इसलिए जहां देना संभव होगा, वहां दे देंगे । अगर माननीय सदस्य यह महसूस करें कि किसी खास जगह देना जरूरी है तो वह मुझे लिखकर भेज दें, मैं प्रायोरिटी बेसिस पर इसकी व्यवस्था करवाने की कोशिश करूंगा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 124. Mr. Sukhomal Sen,

Mismanagenent in I. C. W. A.

*124. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of innumerable complaints being made by the readers, researchers and also the employees of Indian Council of World Affairs about gross mismanagement of this Institute; and

(b) what steps Government are contemplating to save this Institute from fast decline and restore its ariginal glory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are considering various measures including the possibility of reintroducing a Bill in Parliament to improve the ICWA and restore its origilal standard.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, the reply is zero.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero?

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Yes. It is almcst zero; he has said nothing at all.

Sir, the fact is that the Indian Council of World Affairs was a very important organization in Delhi and it was a highly etseemed organization in the whole world. Several scholars used to come here for the many facilities available. Now, it is on the decline and it is disintegrating. In June 1990, the then Government issued an Ordinance and took over this institution as an institution of national importance. Then the Government also introduced a Bill which was passed by the Rajya Sabha. Meanwhile, the Government came down and the Bill could not be passed. In the meantime, the High Court of Punjab and Haryana gave a verdict against the Ordinance. So, the gentleman who was the President of that Council was reinstated. But, Sir, that gentleman is mainly responsible for this disintegraton and

for the present decline of this institution. I would now like to know from the Minister whether the subscription to the journals, newspapers, etc, has grossly declined. I am just quoting a few figures. In 1984, this institution was subscribing to 79 perodicals including newspapers and 27 research journals published from within the country and abroad and, in 1990-91, it is subscribing only to 14 journals out of which seven are local newspapers. Then, about 4,500 books are lost from the Library and the remaining looks are not kept properly. Even the newspapers, periodicals, research papers coming from abroad, etc. are lying on the floor and insects and moths are eating them out. This is what is happening now. It is also learnt that this institution has taken a decison that several newspapers including "The Hindustan Times", "The Times of India", "The Indian Express", etc. are unnecessary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has said in his reply that he is aware of these things. The answer is, "Yes, Sir."

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Apart from this , the auditorium is being rented out for diflerent purposes.

DR. BAPU KALDATE: For marriage parties !

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: And the newspapers say that it is being rented out even for obscene shows, obscene dances, etc. So, disintegration has set in, is taking place there. I would like to know from the honourable Minister—he has said that various measures are being contemplated—what sort of measures are being contemplated to revive this organization, to salvage this organization from the clutches of those people who are out to ruin the organization by using it for their personal benefits. I would like to know what the Minister is thinking about.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir, it is true that the Indian Coucil of World Affairs was contemplated to be an institution of international repute. It was inaugurated, the Sapru House building, in 1955 by our first Prime Minister,—he was then the Minister of External Affairs also—Pandit Nehru. He had made it very clear that great expectations were there about this institution and its location from the point of view of projecting India's foreign policy and communicating with other countries. It was in this context that most eminent people in the world have addressed the Indian Council of World Affairs in the days gone by. If I may mention, apart from Pandit Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Henry Kissinger Alexi Kosygin ... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: We are not interested in the whole history. What are the specific measures he is going to take to rectify the situation? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: It is, therefore, true that the institution was contemplated to be a great institution. The decline began in the 70s. At the present point of time, the measures and the options are as follows: Number one is to reintroduce the Bill in Parliament, the Bill which lapsed upon the dissolution of Lok Sabha. There, we have to get the opinion of the Attorney-General because the Law Minister at that time had suggested that we should get the opinion of the Attorney-General. The opinion of the Attorney-General is called for because the Ordinance which was on the lines of the Bill was struck down by the Punjab High Court on the ground that it was violative of the Constitutional provisions and *ultra vires* of the Fundamental Rights. So, this is one option that can be considered and will be considered only after obtaining the opinion of the Attorney-General which, so far in spite of our reminders, has not come to us. The other option which this Government is contemplating in addition or substitution of the option already mentioned by me is to fund the Library which the Hon. Member has mentioned, the periodicals which he has mentioned, in addition to the projects of international policy nature. I would like to conclude by saying that while we consider helping financially this institu-

tion, we will also see that we have a mechnism or a structure to control and really see that this funding is performance-oriented meaning that the money goes for the purposes for which it is meant in full.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, the point is that the Government is in the know of the matter and they say that they are contemplating certain measures. But Sir, about funding, the Minister is already in the know of the fact that the fund was mismanaged already in that institution. That is why, at certain point of time, the Government also stopped outflow of funds to that institution because of mismanagement or misappropriation of the funds of the institution. Sir, there are Government representatives in that Council also. But the Government representatives did not try to check the disintegration and decline of the institution. Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the present stage of the legal opinion, whether in the next session, the Bill is going to be introduced for taking over the institution. Unless the institution is taken over and declared as an institution of natoinal importance, whatever fund is given to the institution, that may be mismanaged and misappropriated. So, what is the legal opinion? When are they going to introduce the Bill? That is the main thing.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The legal position is that it is an entirely autonomous organisation and institution. Sir, as far as the Bill is concerned, as I have mentioned respectfully to this House, first we must get the opinion of the Attorney-General. After getting the opinion, we will consider whether it is proper and it is necessary to bring a Bill or some other measures, as I have already mentioned funding, but funding with a performance-orientation.

श्री बृज प्रकाश मालवीय : माननीय सभापति जी, 1943 में इस संस्था की स्थापना हुई थी । इसमें डा. सप्रू, डा. कुंजरू और माननीय भतपर्व प्रधान मंत्री जिनका अभी आपने नाम लिया जवाहर लाल नेहरू इससे संबद्ध थे । यहां पर जो शिकायत की गई है वह यह कि यहां के जो पदाधिकारी हैं वे इस संस्था का दुरुपयोग अपने व्यक्तिगत स्वार्थों की पूर्ति के लिए कर रहे हैं । उन कामों के लिए कर रहे हैं जिनका इस संस्था के लिए जरूरी नहीं है । बिल जब पेश करेंगे तब करेंगे लेकिन तुरन्त इस पर क्या कार्रवाई करने जा रहे हैं ।

because it is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Sir as I have mentioned, it is an autonomous organisation. The question of officers of the Government misusing the institution its present format does not arise. If you want the officers of the Government to come in, then the nature of the organisation will have to change. At the moment it is a fully autonomous organisation.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: What about the Government grants?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: No Government grants are being given at this point of time.

DR . YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Sir, the Secretary of the ICWA has written to the Government several times that the books, almirahs and other wooden fixtures were moth-eaten. They wanted some fixtures to be removed. Is it a fact that the Government did not comply to repair the fixtures and to eradicate the moths in the library of the ICWA?

SHRI EDURADO FALEIRO: With all these alleged defects in the functioning, there are only two options that we can see clearly: One is to take it over and make it an organisation or institution of national importance, and the other is to fund it but see that money goes for the purposes for which the funding is made, like the library, cup-boards, projects, seminars and so on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

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